DEATHS DVELL

OR,

A Consolation to the Soule, against the dying Life, and living Death of the Body.

Delivered in a Sermon at White Hall, before the Kings Maiesty, in the beginning of Lent, 1630.

By that late learned and Reuerend Diuine,
IOHN DONNE, Dr. in Divinity,
& Deane of S. Pauls, London.

Being his last Sermon, and called by his Maiesties boushold.
THE DOCTORS OWNE FUNERALL SERMON:



Printed by T HOMAS HARPER, for Richard, Redmer and Beniamin Fisher, and are to be sold at the figne of the Talbotin Alders-gate street.

M.DC.XXXII.

To his dearest sister Mrs. Elizabeth Francis of Brumsted in Norss.



Earest Sister, for any so meane as my selse to prefixe a Dedication to so worthic amans worke as this is, is a bouldnesse little inferior to presumption it selse. But the Copie

being bestowed vpon me by a worthie Friend of mine (farre more able) who would not himselfe take that office vpon him; Principally to let you know, how faine I would shew my gratitude to you, whose debtor I have ever bin; & well knowing your well knowne zeale to devotions of this straine, To you I dedicate (before all others) this sacred Tractate; Of your acceptation of it, I doubt not; But my desire is that you would accept also the love of him that can no wayes else as yet give your deservings better satisfaction, then by remaining.

Your ener truly louing and denoted Brother,

RICH. REDMER.

A CHI P



To the READER.



HIS Sermon was, by Sacred Authoritie, stiled the Authors owne funeral Sermon. Most fitly: whether weerespect the time, or the

matter. It was preached not many dayes before his death; as if, having done this, there
remained nothing for him to doe, but to die:
And the matter is, of Death; the occasion and
subject of all funerall Sermons. It hath beene
observed of this Reverend Man, That his
Faculty in Preaching continually encreased:
and, That as hee exceeded others at first; so,
at last hee exceeded himselfe. This is his last
Sermon; I will not say, it is therefore his best;
because, all his were excellent. Tet thus much:
A dying Mans words, if they concerne our
selves

selves; doe vsually make the deepest impression, as being spoken most feelingly, and with least affectation. Now, whom doth it not concerne to learn, both the danger, and benefit of death? Death is every mans enemy, and intends burt to all; though to many, hee be occasion of greatest goods. This enemy wee must all combate dying; whom hee living did almost conquer; having discovered the vtmost of his power, the vtmost of his crueltie. May wee make such vseofthis and other the like preparatives, That neither death, when so we it shall come, may seeme terrible; nor life tedious; bow long soever it shall last.

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PSALME 68. vers. 20. In fine.

And unto God the (LORD) belong the issues of death. i.e. From death.



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VILDINGS stand by the benefit of their foundations that susteine and support them, & of their butteresses that comprehend and embrace them,

and of their contignations that knit and pnive them: The foundations suffer them not to sinke, the butteresses suffer them not to swerue, and the contignation & knitting suffers them not to cleave; The body of our building is in the former part of this verte: It is this, hee that is our God is the God of

B

Sal-

saluation and salutes; of saluation in the plurall, so it is in the originall; the God that giues vs spirituall and temporall saluation too. But of this building, the foundation, the butteresses, the contignations are in this part of the verse, which constitutes our text, and in the three divers acceptations of the words amongst our expositors. Vnto God the Lord belong the issues from death, for first the foundation of this building, that our God is the God of all saluations) is laid in this; That vnto this God the Lord belong the issues of death, that is, it is in his power to giue vs an issue and deliuerance, euen then when wee are brought to the lawes and teeth of death, and to the lippes of that whirlepoole, the graue. And so in this acceptation, this exitus mortis, this isue of death is liberatio à morte, a deliueran e from death, and this is the most obuious and most ordinaryacceptation of these words, and that vpon which our translation laies hold, the issues from death. And then secondly the butteresses that comprehend and fettlethis building, That hee that is our God,

of

God, is the God of all saluation, are thus raised; vnto Godthe Lord belong the issues of death, that is, the disposition and manner of our death: what kinde of issue and transmigration wee shall have out of this world, whether prepared or sudden, whether violent or naturall, whether in our perfect senses or shaken and disordered by sicknes, there is no condemnation to bee argued out of that, no Iudgement to bee made vpon that, for howfoener they dye, precious in his fight is the death of his faints, and with him are the iffues of death, the wayes of our departing out of this life are in his hands. And so in this sense of the words, this exitus mortis, the issues of death, is liberatio in morte, A deliverance in death; Not that God will deliver vs from dying, but that hee will baue a care of vs in the houre of death, of what kinde soeuer our passage be. And in this sense and acceptation of the words, the naturall frame and contexture doth well and pregnantly administer vnto vs; And then lastly the contignation and knitting of this building, that hee that is

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our God is the God of all saluations, confists in this, vnto this God the Lord belong the issues of death, that is, that this God the Lord having vnited and knit both natures in one, and being God, having also come into this world in our flesh, he could have no other meanes to faue vs, he could have no other issue out of this world, nor returne to his former glory, but by death; And so in this sense, this exitus mortis, this issue of death, is liberatio per mortem, a deliverance by death, by the death of this God our Lord Christ fesus. And this is Saint Augustines acceptation of the words, and those many and great persons that have adhered to him. In all these three lines then, we shall looke vpon these words; First, as the God of power, the Almighty Father rescues his feruants from the iawes, of death: And then as the God of mercy, the glorious Sonne refcued vs, by taking vpon himselfe this isfue of death: And then betweene these two, as the God of comfort, the boly Ghost rescues vs from all discomfort by his blessed impressions before hand, that what manner

of death soeuer be ordeined for vs, yet this exitus mortis shall be introitus in vitam, our issue in death (shall be an entrance into everlasting life.) And these three considerations? our deliverance amorte, in morte, per mortem, from death, in death, & by death, will abundantly doe all the offices of the foundations, of the butteresses, of the contignation of this our building; That he that is our God, is the God of all salvation, because vnto this God the Lord belong the issues of death.

First, then, we consider this exitus mortis, to bee liberatio à morte, that with God the Lord are the issues of death, and therefore in all our death, and deadly calamities of this life; wee may justly hope of a good issue from him. In all our periods and transitions in this life, are so many passages from death to death; our very birth and entrance into this life, is exitus à morte, an issue from death, for in our mothers wombe wee are dead so, as that wee doe not know wee line, not so much as wee doe in our sleepe, neither is there any grane so close, or A morte, in morte, per mortem.

Foudation, buttereffes and contignation.

I. Part.

Exitus a morte vteri.

fo

so putrid a prison, as the nombe would be vnto vs, if we stayed in it beyond our time, or dyed there before our time. In the grave the wormes doe not kill vs, wee breed and feed, and then kill those wormes which wee our selues produc'd. In the wombe the dead child kills the Mother that conceiued it, & is a murtherer, nay a parricide, euen after it is dead. And if wee bee not dead so in the wombe, so as that being dead wee kill her that gaue vs our first life, our life of vegetation, yet wee are dead so, as Davids Idols are dead. In the wombe wee haue eyes and see not, eares and heare not; There in the wombe wee are fitted for workes of darkenes, all the while deprined of light: And there in the wombe wee are taught cruelty, by being fed with blood, and may be damned, though we be never borne. Of our very making in the wombe, David sayes, I am wonderfully and fearefully made, and such knowledge is too excellent for me, for even that is the Lords doing, and it is wonderfull in our eyes; Ipse fecit nos, it is hee that hath made vs, and not wee our selues,

nor

Pfal. I 15. verf.6.

Pfal.139.6.

Pf.118.23.

100.3.

nor our parents neither; Thy hands have made me and fashioned me round about, saith 10b, and (as the originall word is) thou bast taken paines about me, and yet, sayes he, thou doest destroy me. Though I bee the Master peece of the greatest Master (man is so,) yet if thou doe no more for me, if thou leaue me where thou madest mee, destruction will follow. The wombe which should be the bouse of life, becomes death it selfe, if God leave vs there. That which God threatens so often, the sbutting of the womb, is not so beauy, nor so discomfortable a curse in the first, as in the latter shutting, nor in the shutting of barrennes, as in the shutting of weakenes, when children are come to the birth, and no strength to bring forth.

It is the exaltation of misery, to fall from | Esay 37. a neare hope of happines. And in that vehement imprecation, the Prophet expresses the highest of Gods anger give them ô Lord, what wilt thougive them? give them a mifcarying wombe. Therefore as soone as wee are men, (that is, inanimated) quickned in

the womb sthogh we cannot our selves, our

Rom. 7.24.

parents haue to say in our behalf, wretched man that he is, who shall deliver him from this body of death? for even the wombe is a body of death, if there bee no deliverer. It must be he that said to leremy, Before I formed thee I knew thee, and before thou camest out of the wombe I sanctified thee. We are not sure that there was no kinde of shippe nor boate to fish in, nor to passe by, till God prescribed Noab that absolute form of the Arke. That word which the boly

Exo. 23.

Gen. 4.1.

mon to all kinde of boates, Theball, and is the same word that Moses vseth for the boate that he was exposed in, That his mother layed him in an arke of bulrushes. But we are sure that Eue had no Midwife when she was delivered of Cain, therefore shee might well say, possed virum à Domino, I have gotten a man from the Lord, wholly, entirely from the Lord; It is the Lord that enabled me to conceive, The Lord that infusida quickning soule into that conception, the Lord that brought into the world that which

Ghost by Moses vieth for the Arke, is com-

which himselfe bad quickened, without all this might Eue say, My body had bene but the house of death, and Domini Domini sunt exitus mortis, to Gad the Lord belong the ifsues of death. But then this exitus a morte, is but introitus in mortem, this isue, this deliuerance from that death, the death of the wombe, is an entrance, a deliuering ouer to another death, the manifold deathes of this world, wee haue a winding sheete in our Mothers wombe, which growes with vs from our conception, and wee come into the world, wound vp in that winding sheet, for wee come to seeke a grave; And as prisoners discharg'd of actions may lye for fees; so when the wombe hath discharg'd vs, yet we are bound to it by cordes of hefte by fuch a string, as that wee cannot goe thence, nor stay there; wee celebrate our owne funeralls with cryes, even at our birth; as though our threescare and ten years life were spent in our mothers labour, and our circle made vp in the first point thereof; we begge our Baptisme, with another Sacrament, with teares; And we come into

Exitus a mortibus mundi. Ich. 14.2.

a world that lasts many ages, but wee last not; in domo Patris, lays our Saujour, speaking of beauen, multæ mansiones, there are many mansons, divers and durable, so that if a man cannot possesse a martyrs house, (he hath shed no blood for Christ, yet hee may haue a Confessors, he hath bene ready to glorifie God in the shedding of bis blood. And if a woman cannot possesse a wirgins house (she hath embrac'd the boly state of mariage yet she may have a matrons house, the hath brought forth and brought vp children in the feare of God. In domo patris, in my fathers house, in heaven there are many mansions; but here vpon earth the sonne of man bath not where to lay his head, sayes he himselfe. Nonne terram dedit filijs bominum? how then hath God given this earth to the sonnes of men? hee hath given them earth for their materialls to bee made of earth, and hee hath given them earth for their grave and sepulture, to returne and resolue to earth, but not for their possession: Here wee have no continuing citty, nay no cottage that continues, nay no persons

Mat.8.20:

Heb.13.14

no bodies that continue. Whatfoeuer moued Saint Ierome to call the journies of the Ifraelites, in the wildernes, mansions; Exo.17,1: The word (the word is Nasang) signifies but a iourney, but a peregrination. Euen the I rael of God hath no mansions; but iournies, pilgrimages in this life. By what measure did Iacob measure his life to Pharaob; the dayes of the years of my pilgrimage. And though the Apostle would not say Gen. 47.9. morimur, that, whilest wee are in the body wee are dead, yet hee fayes, Peregrinamur, whilest wee are in the body, wee are but in a pilgrimage, and wee are absent from the Lord; hee might have fayd dead, for this 2 Cor.5.6. whole world is but an vniver fall churchyard, but our common grave, and the life & motion that the greatest persons have in it, is but as the shaking of buried bodies in their graue, by an earth-quake. That which we call life, is but Hebdomadamortium, a weeke of death, seauen dayes, seauen periods of our lite spent in dying, a dying seauen times ouer, and there is an end. Our birth dyes in infancy, and our infancy dyes

in youth, and youth and the rest dyein age, and age also dyes, and determines all. Nor doe all these, youth out of infancy, or age out of youth arise so, as a Phanix out of the asbes of another Phanix formerly dead, but as a waspe or a serpent out of a caryon, or as a Snake out of dung. Our youth is worfe then our infancy, and our age worse then our youth. Our youth is bungry and thirfly, after those finnes, which our infancy knew not; And our age is sory and angry, that it cannot pursue those sinnes which our youth did; & besides, al the way, so many deaths, that is, so many deadly calamities accompany every condition, and every period of this life, as that death it selfe would bee an ease to them that suffer them : Vpon this sense doth lob wish that God had not given him an issue from the first death, from the mombe, Wherefore hast thou brought me forth out of the wombe? O that I had given up the Ghost, and no eye seene me? I should have beene as though I had not beene. And not only the impatient Israelites in their murmuring (would to God wee had dyed by the band

10. 18.

hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt) but Eliab himselfe, when he fled from Iesabell, and went for his life, as that text fayes, vnder the Iunipertree, requested that bee might dye, & sayd, it is enough now, O Lord, take away my life. So Ionah iustifies his impatience, nay his anger towards God himselfe. Now ô Lord take, I beseech thee, my life from mee, for it is better to dye then to line. And when God asked him, doest thou well to be angry for this, he replyes, I doe well to be angry, euen vnto death, how much worse a death then death, is this life, which fo good men would so often change for death? But if my case bee as Saint Paules case, quotidie morior, that I dye dayly, that something heavier then death fall vpon me euery day; If my case be Davids case, tota die mortificamur; all the day long wee are killed, that not onely every day, but every houre of the day some thing heavier then death fall vpon me, though that bee true of me, Conceptus in peccatis, I was shapen in iniquity, and in hone did my mother conceiue me, (there I dyed one death,)though that

Exo. 16.3.

Rev. 19.4.

that be true of me (Natus filius ira) I was borne not onely the child of sinne, but the child of wrath, of the wrath of God for finne, which is a heauier death; Yet Domini Domini sunt exitus mortis, with God the Lord are the iffues of death, and after a lob, and a Toseph, and a Ieremie, and a Daniel, I cannot doubt of a deliuerance. And if no other deliuerance conduce more to his Apoc. 1.18. glory and my good, yet he hath the keys of death, and hee can let me out at that dore, that is, deliuer me from the manifold deaths of this world, theomni die and the tota die, the enery dayes death & enery houres death, by that one death, the finall dissolution of body and soule, the end of all. But then is that the end of all? Is that diffolution of body and foule, the last death that the body shall suffer? (for of spirituall death wee (peake not now) It is not, though this be exitus à morte; It is introitus in mortem: though it beean iffue from manifold deaths of this world, yet it is an entrance into the death of corruption and putrefaction & vermiculation and incineration, and dispersion

Exites morte Incinerationis.

in and from the grave, in which every dead man dyes ouer againe. It was a prerogative peculiar to Christ, not to dy this death, not to see corruption : what gaue him this priuiledge? Not losephs great proportion of gummes and spices, that might have preserued his body from corruption and incineration longer then he needed it, longer then three dayes, but it would not have done it for euer: what preserved him then? did his exemption and freedome from originall finne prescrue him from this corruption and incineration? tis true that original finne hath induced this corruption and incineration vpon vs; If weehad not sinned in Adam, mortality bad not put on immortality, (as the Apostle speakes) no, corruption had not put on incorruption, but we had had our transmigration from this to the other world, without any mortality, any corrup. tion at all. But yet since Christ tooke some vpon him, so farre as made him mortall, he had it so farre too, as might have made him fee this corruption and incineration, though he had no original fines in himself; what

1 Cor.15. verf.33.

what preseru'd him then? Did the bypostaticall pnion of both natures? God and Man, preserve him from this corruption and incineration? 'tis true that this was a most powerfull embalming, to be embalmd with the divine nature it selfe, to bee embalmed with eternity, was able to preserve him from corruption and incineration for euer. And he was embalmd, so embalmd with the divine nature it selfe, even in his body as well as in his foule; for the Godbead, the divine nature did not depart, but remained still vnited to his dead body in the grave; But yet for althis powerful embalming, his bypostaticall ronion of both natures, we see Christ did dye; and for all his vnion which made him God and Man, hee became no man (for the vnion of the body and soule makes the man, and hee whose soule and body are separated by death as long as that state lasts is properly no man.) And therefore as in him the diffolution of body and Soule was no dissolution of the hypostaticall runion; so is there nothing that constraines vs to say, that though the flesh of Christ

had seene corruption and incineration in the graue, this had bene any dissolution of the hypostaticall pnion, for the divine nature, the Godhead might have remained with all the Elements and principles of Christs body, aswell as it did with the two constitutime parts of his person, his body and his soul. This incorruption then was not in Iosephs gummes and spices, nor was it in Christs innocency, and exemption from original fin, nor was it that is, it is not necessary to say it was) in the bypostaticall vnion. But this incorruptiblenes of his flesh is most conueniently placed in that; Non dabis, thou wilt not suffer thy holy one to see corruption, wee looke no further for causes or reasons in the mysteries of religion, butto the will and pleasure of God : Christ himselfe limited his inquisition in that ita est, even so Father, Mat. 11.26. for so it seemeth good in thy fight. Christs body did not see corruption, therefore, because God had decreed it shold not. The humble foule (and onely the humble foule is the religious soule) rests himseife vpon Gods purposes and the decrees of God, which he

Pfal, 16.10.

hath

Acts 2.3 1.

Verf.10.

hath declared and manifested not such as are conceived and imagined in our felues, though vpon some probability, some veresmilitude, so in our present case Peter proceeds in his Sermon at Ierusalem, & so Paul in his at Antioch. They preached Christ to haue bene rifen without seeing corruption, not onely because God had decreed it, but because he had manifested that decree in his Prophet, therefore doth Saint Paul cite by speciall number the second Psalme for that decree; Andtherefore both Saint Peter & S. Paul cite for it that place in the 16. Plalme, for when God declares his decree and purpose in the expresse words of his Prophet, or when he declares it in the reall execution of the decree, then he makes it ours, then he manifests it to vs. And therforeas the Mysteries of our Religion, are not the objects of our reason, but by faith we rest on Gods decree and purpose. (It is so o God, because it is thy will, it should be so) so Gods decrees are ever to be confidered in the manifestation thereof. All manifestation is either in the word of God, or in the execution

of the decree; And when these two concur and meete it is the strongest demonstration that can be : when therefore I finde those markes of adoption and spiritual filiation, which are deliuered in the word of God to be vpon me, when I finde that reall execution of his good purpose vpon me, as that actually I doe live vnder the obedience, and under the conditions which are evidences of adoption and spiritual siliation; Then so long as I fee these markes and live so; I may safely comfort my selfe in a holy certitude and a modest infallibility of my adoption. Christ determines himself in that, the purpose of God was manifest to him: S. Peter and S. Paul determine themselves in those two wayes of knowing the purpose of God, the word of God before the execution of the decree in the fulnes of time. It was prophecyed before, lay they, and it is performed now, Christ is risen without seeing corruption. Now this which is so singularly peculiar to him, that his flesh should not see corruption, at his second coming, his coming to Iudgement, shall extend to all that are then D 2

then aliue, their Hesta shall not see corruption, because as th' Apostle sayes, and sayes as a secret, as a mystery; Behold I she w you a mistery, wee shall not all sleepe, (that is, not continue in the state of the dead in the graue,) but wee shall all be changed in an instant, we shall have a dissolution, and in the same instant a redintgeration, a recompacting of body and soule, and that shall be truely a death & truely a resurrection, but no sleeping in corruption; But for vs that dye now and sleepe in the state of the dead, we must al passe this postbume death, this death after death, nay this death after buriall, this dissolution after dissolution, this death of corruption and putrifaction, of vermiculation and incineration, of dissolution and dispersion in and from the grave, when these bodies that have beene the children of royall parents, & the parents of royall children, must say with Tob, Corruption thou art my father, and to the Worme thou art my mother & my fister. Miserable riddle, when the same worme must bee my mother, and my sister, and my selfe. Miserable incest, when I must bee maried

ried to my mother and my fifter, and bee both father and mother to my owne mother and fifter, beget & beare that worme which is all that miserable penury; when my mouth shall be filled with duft, and the worme shall feed, and feed sweetely vpon me, when the ambitious man shall have no satisfaction, if the poorest alive tread upon him, nor the poorest receive any contentment in being made equal to Princes, for they shall bee equall but in dust. One dyeth at his full 10b.23.24. strength, being wholly at ease & in quiet, and another dyes in the bitternes of his foul, and neuer eates with pleasure, but they lye downe alike in the dust, and the worme covers them; In lob and in Efay, it couers them Vers.i4. 11. and is spred under them, the worme is spred under thee, and the worme couers thee; There's the Mats and the Carpets that lye under, and there's the State and the Canapye, that bangs over the greatest of the sons of men; Euen those bodies that were the temples of the holy Ghost, come to this dilapidation, to ruine, to rubbidge, to dust, euen the Israel of the Lord, and Iacob himselfe hath

Verf. 24 20

hath no other specification, no other denomination, but that vermis Iacob, thou worme of Jacob. Truely the consideration of this postbume death, this death after buriall, that after God, (with whom are the issues of death) hath delivered me from the death of the wombe, by bringing mee into the world, and from the manifold deaths of the world, by laying me in the grave, 1 must dye againe in an Incineration of this flesh, and in a dispersion of that dust. That that Monarch, who spred ouer many nations aliue, must in his dust lye in a corner of that sheete of lead, and there, but so long as that lead will laste, and that privat and retir'a man, that thought himselfe his owne for euer, and neuer came forth, must in his dust of the grave bee published, and (such are the revolutions of the graves) bee mingled with the dust of euery high way, and of euery dunghill, and swallowed in euery puddle and pond: This is the most inglorious and contemptible vilification, the most deadly and peremptory nullification of man, that wee can consider; God feemes

seemes to have caried the declaration of his power to a great height, when hee fets the Prophet Exechiel in the valley of drye bones, & sayes, Sonne of man can these bones liue? as though it had bene impossible, and yet they did; The Lord layed Sinewes upon them, and flesh, and breath into them, and they did live : But in that case there were bones to bee seene, something visible, of which it might be fayd, can this thing live? But in this death of incineration, and difpersion of dust, wee see nothing that wee call that mans; If we fay, can this dust live? perchance it cannot, it may bee the meere duft of the earth, which never did live, never shall. It may be the dust of that mans worme, which did live, but shall no more. It may bee the dust of another man, that concernes not him of whom it is askt. This death of incineration and dispersion, is, to naturall reason, the most irrecoverable death of all, & yet Domini Domini sunt exitus mortis, vnto God the Lord belong the if sues of death, and by recompacting this dust into the same body, & reanimating the same body

body with the same soule, hee shall in a blessed and glorious resurrection give mee such an issue from this death, as shal never passe into any other death, but establish me into a life that shall last as long as the Lord of life himselfe.

And so have you that that belongs to the first acceptation of these words, (noto God the Lord belong the issues of death)

That though from the nombe to the grave and in the grave it selfe wee passe from death to death, yet, as Daniel speakes, the Lord our God is able to deliver vs, and bee will deliver vs.

And so wee passe vnto our second accommodation of these words (wnto God the Lord belong the issues of death) That it belongs to God, and not to man to passe a judgement vpon vs at our death, or to conclude a dereliction on Gods part vpon the manner thereof.

2. Part. Liberatio in morte. Those indications which the Physicians receive, and those presagitions which they give for death or recovery in the patient, they receive and they give out of the grounds

grounds and the rules of their art: But we haue no such rule or art to giue a presagition of spiritual death & damnation vpon any such iudication as wee see in any dying man; wee see often enough to be sory, but not to despaire; wee may bee deceiued both wayes, wee vse to comfort our selfe in the death of afriend, if it be testified that he went away like a Lambe, that is, without any reluctation. But, God knowes, that may bee accompanied with a dangerous damp and stupefaction, & insensibility of his present state. Our blessed Sauiour suffered coluctations with death, and a sadnes even in his soule to death, and an agony euen to a bloody (weate in his body, and expostulations with God, & exclamations vpon the crosse. He was a deuout man, who said vpon his death bed, or dead turfe (for hee was an Heremit)septuaginta annos Domino servivisti, & mori times? bast thou served a good Master threescore and ten yeares, and now art thou loath to goe into his presence? yet Hilarion was loath; Bartaam was a deuout man (an Heremit too) that sayd that day hee dyed. Cogi-

Cogita te hodie cœpisse seruire Domino, & hodie finiturum. Consider this to be the first days service that ever thou didst thy Master, to glorifie him in a Christianly and a constant death, and if thy first day be thy last day too, how soone dost thou come to receive thy wages? yet Bartaam could have beene content to haue stayd longer forth: Make no ill conclusions upon any mans loathnes to dye, for the mercies of God worke momentarily in minutes, and many times in sensibly to bystanders or any other then the party departing. And then vpon violent deaths inflicted, as vpon malefactors. Christ himselfe hath forbidden vs by his owne death to make any ill conclusion, for his owne death had those impressions in it; He was reputed, he was executed as a malefactor, & no doubt many of them who concurred to his death, did beleeue him to bee so; Of sudden death there are scarce examples to be found in the scriptures vpon good men, for death in battaile cannot be called suden death; But God gouernes not by examples, but by rules, and therefore make no ill conclu-

clusion vpon sudden death nor vpon distempers, neither though perchance accompanied with some words of diffidence and distrust in the mercies of God: The treelyes as it falles its true, but it is not the last stroake that fells the tree, nor the last word nor gaspe that qualifies the soule. Stil pray wee for a peaceable life against violent death, & for time of repentance against sudden death, and for sober and modest assurance against distemperd and diffident death, but neuer make ill conclusions vpon persons ouertaken with such deaths; Domini Domini sunt exitus mortis, to God the Lord belong the ifsues of death. And be received Sampson, who went out of this world in such a manner consider it actively, consider it passively in his owne death, and in those whom he slew with himselfe) as was subject to interpretation hard enough. Yet the holy Ghost hath moued S. Paul to celebrate Sampson Heb. 11. in his great Catalogue, and so doth all the Church: Our criticall day is not the very day of our death: but the whole course of our life. I thanke him that prayes for me when

the Bell tolles, but I thank him much more that Catechifes mee, or preaches to mee, or instructs mee how to line. Fac hoc & vine, there's my securitie, the mouth of the Lord bath sayd it, doe this and thou shalt live: But though I doe it, yet I shall dye too, dye a bodily a naturall death. But God neuer mentions, neuer feems to confider that death, the bodily, the naturall death. God doth not fay, live well and thou shalt dye well, that is, an easie, a quiet death; But live well bere, and thou shalt line well for euer. As the first part of a sentence peeces wel with the last, and neuer respects, neuer hearkens after the parenthesis that comes betweene, so doth a good life here flowe into an eternall life, without any consideration, what manner of death wee dye: But whether the gate of my prison be opened with an oyldkey (by a gentle and preparing ficknes, or the gate bee hemen downe by a violent death, or the gate bee burnt downe by a raging and frantique feauer, a gate into beauen Isball have, tor from the Lord is the cause of my life, and with God the Lord are the if-Jues

fues of death. And further wee cary not this second acceptation of the words, as this issue of death is, liberatio in morte, Gods care that the soule be safe, what agonies soeuer the body suffers in the houre of death.

But passe to our third part & last part; as this issue of death is liberatio per mortem, a deliuerance by the death of another. Sufferentiam lob audisti, & vidisti finem Domini, sayes Saint James 5.11. You have heard of the patience of lob, says he, All this while you have done that, for in every man, calamitous, miserable man, a Iob speakes Now see the end of the Lord, sayth that A. postle, which is not that end that the Lord propos'd to himselfe (saluation to rus 'nor the end which he proposes to vs (conformitie to him) but see the end of the Lord, sayes he, The end, that the Lord himselfe came to death, and a painefull & a shame. full death, but why did he dye? and why dye so? Quia Domini Domini sunt exitus mortis (as Saint Augustine interpreting this text answeres that question) because to this God our Lord belong'd the issues of death.

3. Part. Liberatio per morte.

De civitate Dei lib. 17.

E 3

Quid

Quid apertius diceretur? sayes hee there, what can bee more obuious, more manifest then this sense of these words. In the former part of this verse, it is sayd; He that is our God, is the God of Saluation, Deus salvos faciendi, so hee reads it, the God that must saue vs. Who can that be, sayes he, but Iesus? for therefore that name was given bim, because he was to saue vs. And to this Ie/us, sayes he, this Sauiour, belongs the issues of death; Necoportuit eum de hac vita alios exitus habere quam mortis. Being come into this life in our mortal nature; He could not goe out of it any other way but by death? Ideo dictum, sayes he, therefore it is sayd. To God the Lord belong the issues of death; vt ostenderetur moriendo nos saluos facturum, to shew that his way to saue vs was to dye. And from this text doth Saint Hodore proue; that Christ was truely Man, (which as many seets of heretiques denyed, as that he was truely God) because to him, though he were Dominus Dominus (as the text doubles it) God the Lord, yet to him, to God the Lord belong'd the issues of death, oportuit eum pati

more

Mat. 1.21:

more can not be sayd, then Christ himselfe sayes of himselfe; These things Christ ought to suffer, hee had no other way but by death: So then this part of our Sermon must needes be a passion Sermon; since all his life was a continual passion, all our Lent may well bee a continual good Fryday. Christs painefull life tooke off none of the paines of his death, hee felt not the leffe then for hauing felt so much before. Nor will any thing that shall be sayd before, lessen, but rather inlarge the deuotion, to that which shall be sayd of his passion at the time of due solemnization thereof. Christ bled not a droppe the lesse at the last, for having bled at his Circumcifion before, nor wil you a teare the lesse then, if you shed some now. And therefore bee now content to consider with mee how to this God the Lord belong'd the issues of death. That God, this Lord, the Lord of life could dye, is a strange contemplation; That the red Sea could bee drie, That the Sun could stand still, that an Quen could be seauen times heat and not burne, That Lions could be hungry

Luk.24.26

and

& not bite, is strange, miraculously strange, but supermiraculous that God could dye; but that God would dye is an exaltation of that. But euen of that also it is a superexaltation, that God shold dye, must dye, & no exitus (said S. Augustin, Godsthe Lord had no issue but by death, & oportuit pati (fays Christ himself, all this Christ ought to suffer, was bound to suffer; Deus vitionum Deus says Dauid, God is the God of reuenges, he wold not passe ouer the Jonne of man vnreuenged, vnpunished. But then Deus vitionum libere egit (sayes that place) The God of revenges workes freely, he punishes, he spares whome he will. And wold he not spare himselfe? he would not: Dilectio fortis pt mors, loue is strong as death, stronger, it drew in death that naturally is not welcom. Si posibile, says Christ, If it be possible, let this Cup passe, when his loue expressed in a former decree with his Eather, had made it impossible. Many waters quench not loue, Christ tryed many; He was Baptized out of his love, and his love determined not there. He mingled blood with water in his agony and that determined not his

Pfal 9.1.

Cant. 8 6.

Verf. 7.

his loue; hee mept pure blood, all his blood at all his eyes, at all his pores, in his flagellation and thornes (to the Lord our God belong'd the issues of blood) and these expressed, but these did not quench his loue. Hee would not spare, nay he could not spare himselfe. There was nothing more free, more voluntary, more spontaneous then the death of Christ. Tis true, libere egit, he dyed voluntarily, but yet when we consider the contract that had passed betweene his Father and him, there was an oportuit, a kind of necessity vpon him. All this Christ ought to suffer. And when shall we date this obligation, this oportuit, this necessity? when shall wee say that begun. Certainly this decree by which Christ was to suffer all this, was an eternall decree, and was there any thing before that, that was eternall? Infinite loue, eternall loue, be pleased to follow this home, and to confider it seriously, that what liberty soeuer wee can conceiue in Christ, to dye or not to dye; this necessity of dying, this decree is as eternall as that liberty; and yet how small a matter made hee of

F

this

Gen.3.15.

this necessity and this dying? His Father cals it but a bruise, and but a bruising of his beele (the serpent shall bruise bis beele) and yet that was that, the serpent should practise and compasse his death. Himselfe calls it but a Baptisme, as though he were to bee Luk. 12 40. the better for it. I have a Baptisme to be Bap. tized with, and he was in paine till it was

Heb. 12.2.

Mat. 22. 22.

Pf.116.12.

accomplished, and yetthis Baptisme was his death. The holy Ghost calls it loy (for the loy which was fet before him hee indured the Croffe) which was not a ioy of his reward after his passion, but a joy that filled him euen in the middest of those torments, and arose from him; when Christ calls his Calicem, a Cuppe, and wee worse (can ye drink of my Cuppe) he speakes not odiously, not with detestation of it: Indeed it was a Cup, (alus mundo, a health to all the world. And quid retribuam, says David, what shall I render to the Lord? answere you with David, accipiam Calicem, I will take the Cup of Jalua. tion, takeit, that Cup is Saluation, his passion, if not into your present imitation, yet into your present contemplation. And behold how

how that Lord that was God, yet could dye, would dye, must dye, for your saluation. That Moses and Elias talkt with Christ in the transfiguration, both Saint Mathew and Saint Marke tells vs, but what they talkt Marig.4. of onely S. Luke, Dicebant excessum eius, says he, they talkt of his decease, of his death which was to be accomplished at Ierusalem, The word is of his Exodus, the very word of our text exitus, his is ue by death. Moses who in his Exodus had prefigured this iffue of our Lord, and in passing Israel out of Egypt through the red Sea, had forerold in that actuall prophehe, Christ passing of mankind through the sea of his blood. And Elias, whose Exodus and issue out of this world was a figure of Christs ascension, had no doubt a great satisfaction in talking with our bleffed Lord de excessu eius, of the full consummation of all this in his death, which was to bee accomplished at Ierusalem. Our meditation of his death should be more viscerall and affect vs more because it is of a thing already done. The ancient Romanes had a certain terdernesse and detestation F 2

Mat. 17.3.

Luke 9.31.

of the name of death, they cold not name death, no, not in their wills. There they could not say Si mori contigerit, but fi quid bumanitus contingat, nor if, or when I dye, but when the course of nature is accomplished vpon me. To vs that speake dayly of the death of Christ, (he was crucified, dead and buried) can the memory or the mention of our owne death bee yrkesome or bitter? There are in these latter times amongst vs, that name death frely enogh, and the death of God, but in blashemous oathes & execrations. Miserable men, who shall therefore bee sayd neuer to have named Iesus, because they have named him too often. And therfore heare Iesus say, Ne sciui vos, I neuer knew you, because they made themselves too familiar with him. Moses and Elias talkt with Christ of his death, only, in a holy and ioyfull sense of the benefit which they and all the world were to receive by that. Discourses of Religion should not be out of curiosity, but to edification. And the they talkt with Christ of his death at that time, when he was in the grea-

test beight of glory that euer he admitted in this world, that is, his transfiguration. And wee are afraid to speake to the great men of this world of their death, but nourish in them a vaine imagination of immortality, & immutability. But bonum est nobis esse hic (as Saint Peter said there) It is good to dwell here, in this consideration of his death, and therefore transferre wee our tabernacle our denotions) through some of those steps which God the Lord made to his issue of death that day. Take in the whole day from the boure that Christ received the passeouer vpon Thursday, conto the boure in which hee dyed the next day. Make this present day that day in thy deuotion, and consider what bee did, and remember what you have done. Before hee instituted and celebrated the Sacrament, (which was after the eating of the passeouer) hee proceeded to that act of humility, to wash his disciples feete, euen Peters, who for a while refisted him; In thy preparation to the holy and blessed Sacrament, hast thou with a sincere humility sought a reconciliation

Conformitas,

liation with all the world, even with those that have beene averse from it, and refused that reconciliation from thee? If so and not els thou hast spent that first part of his last day, in a conformity with him. Af. ter the Sacrament hee spent the time till night in prayer, in preaching, in Psalmes; Hast thou considered that a worthy receaving of the Sacrament confists in a continuation of bolinesse after, aswell as in a preparation before. If so, thou hast therein also conformed thy selfe to him, so Christ spent his time till night; At night hee went into the garden to pray, and he prayed prolixious the spent much time in prayer, how much? Because it is literally expressed, that he prayed there three severall times, & that returning to his Disciples after his first prayer, and finding them a sleepe layd, could ye not watch with me one houre, it is collected that he spent three houres in prayer. I dare scarce aske thee whither thou wentest, or bow thou disposedst of thy self, when it grew darke & after last night: If that time were spent in a holy recommendation of thy selfe

Luk.22.24.

Mat. 26 40.

to God, and a submission of thy will to his, It was spent in a conformity to him. In that time and in those prayers was his agony & bloody sweat. I will hope that thou didst pray; but not every ordinary and customary prayer, but prayer actually accompanied with shedding of teares, and dispositively in a readines to shed blood for his glory in necessary cases, puts thee into a conformity with him; About midnight he was taken and bound with a kiffe, art thou not too conformable to him in that? Is not that too literally, too exactly thy case? at midnight to haue bene taken & bound with a kisse? from thence he was caried back to Ierusalem, first to Annas, then to Caiphas, and (as late as it was) then hee was examined and buffeted, and delivered over to the custody of those officers, from whome he received all those irrifions, and violences, the couering of his face, the spitting opon his face, the blasphemies of words, & the smartnes of blowes which that Gospell mentions. In which copasse fell that Gallicinium, that crowing of the Cock which called pp Peter to his repentance,

tance, how thou passedst all that time thou knowest. If thou didst any thing that needed Peters teares, and hast not shed them, let me bethy Cock, doe it now, Now thy Master (in the vnworthiest of his seruants) lookes back vpon thee, doe it now; Betimes, in the morning, so soone as it was day, the Iewes beld a counsell in the bigb Priests ball, and agreed vpon their evidence against him, and then caried him to Pilate, who was to behis ludge; diddest thou accuse thy selfe when thou wakedst this morning, and wast thou content euen with false accusations (that is) rather to suspect actions to have beene sin, which were not, then to smother & iustify such as were truly sins? then thou spentst that boure in conformity to him: Pilate found no evidence against bim, & therefore to ease himselfe, and to passe a complement voon Herod, Tetrarch of Galilee, who was at that time at Ierusalem (because Christ being a Galilean was of Herods iurisdiction) Pilat sent him to Herod, & rather as a madman then a malefactor, Herod remaunded him (with scornes) to Pilat to proceed against

to

gainst him; And this was about eight of the clock. Hast thou been content to come to this Inquifition, this examination, this agitation, this cribration, this pursuit ofthy conscience, to fift it to follow it from the sinnes of thy youth to thy present sinnes, from the sinnes of thy bed, to the sinnes of thy boorde, & from the substance to the circumstance of thy sinnes? That's time spent like thy Sauiours. Pilat wold have Jaued Christ, by vsing the priviledge of the day in his behalfe, because that day one prisoner was to be delivered, but they choose Barrabas, hee would have saved him from death, by satisfying their fury, with inflicting other torments upon him, scourging and crowning with thornes, and loading him with many scorneful and ignominous contumlies; But they regarded him not, they prefled a crucifying. Hast thougone about to redeeme thy sinne, by fasting, by Almes, by disciplines and mortifications? in way of satisfaction to the Iustice of God? that will not serue, thats not the right way, wee presse an vtter Crucifying of that sinne that gouernes thee;

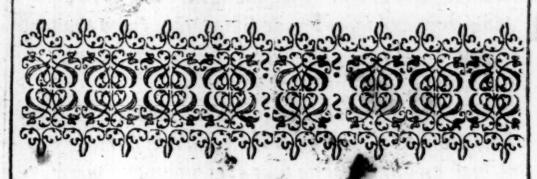
& that conformes thee to (brift. Towards noone Pilat gaue iudgement, and they made such bast to execution, as that by noone hee was vpon the Crosse. There now hangs that lacred Body vpon the Crosse, rebaptized in his owne teares and sweat, and embalmed in his owne blood alive. There are those bowells of compassion, which are so conspicuous, so manifested, as that you may see them through his wounds. There those glo. rious eyes grew faint in their fight: lo as the Sun ashamed to surviue them, departed with his light too. And then that Sonne of God, who was never from vs, and yet had now come a new way vnto vs in assuming our nature, deliuers that soule (which was never out of his Fathers hands) by a new way, a voluntary emission of it into his Fathers hands; For though to this God our Lord, belong'd these issues of death, so that considered in his owne contrad, he must necesfarily dye, yet at no breach or battery, which they had made vpon his sacred Body, issued his foule, but emisit, hee gave vp the Ghost, and as God breathed a soule into the first Adam,

dam, so this second Adam breathed his soule into God, into the hands of God. There were leave you in that blessed dependancy, to hang upon him that hangs upon the Crosse, there bath in his teares, there suck at his woundes, and lye downe in peace in his grave, till hee wouchsafe you a resurrection, and an ascension into that Kingdome, which hee hath prepared for you, with the inestimable price of his incorruptible blood.

A M E N.



class the man to the south bases the blank by successful the bunds of God. There were seed of people the seed in principality visit star Liet Lings veron i in Crass, there inguita his realizathery fuck achis mounder, and the doubted in teace in his grane, tall in c on has the same sy a new state and the same which thing act not be meeted decision. El l'orning ales alles distributions incremption blooks MUMA



AN EEEGIE,

On Dr. Donne, Deane of Pauls.



O have liu'd eminent in a degree Beyondour loftiest flights, that is, Orthaue had toomuch merit is not For such excesses find no Epitaph,

At common graves wee have poetick eyes Can mel them selnes in easy Elegies; Each quill can drop his tributary verse, And pinit, like the Hatchments, to the hear fe. But at thine, poeme or inscription (Rich soule of wit and language) wee have none. Indeed a silence doth that tombe befit, Where is no Herald left to blazon it. Widdow'd invention instly doth forbeare To come abroade knowing thou art not there, Late her great Patron, whose prerogative Maintain'd and cloth'd her fo, as none aline Must now presume to keepe her at thy rate, Though hee the Indies for her dower estate. Or els that awfull fire, which once did burne

In thy cleare braine, now faline into thy wrne, Lives there to fright rude Empericks from thence, Which might profane thee by their ignorance. Whoever writes of thee and in a flyle Vnworthy such a theame, does but reuile T by pretious dust, and wake a learned spirit, Which might revenge his rapes upon thy merit. For all a low pitch'd fancy can deuise, Will proue at best but hallowed iniuries.

Thou (like the dying Swan) did'st lately fing Thy mournefull dirge in audience of the King: When pale lookes, and weake accents of thy breath Presented so to life that peece of death, That it was fear'd and prophecied by all, Thou thither cam'st to preach thy Funerall.

O! had'st thou in an Elegiak knell Rung out unto the world thine owne farmell; And in thy high victorious numbers beat The solemne measure of thy griew'd retreat: Thou might'st the Poets service now have mist Aswell, as then thou did'st prenent the Priest. And never to the world beholding bee So much as for an Epitaph for thee. I doe not like the office, nor is it fit, Thou who did ft lend our age such summes of wit, Should ft now reborrow from her bankrupt mine That ore to bury thee, which once was thine: Rather still leave vs in thy debt, and know (Exalted soule) more glory'tis to owe Vntothy hear fe, what wee can never pay, Then with embased coyne those rights defray.

Commit wee then thee to thy selfe; nor blame

Our drooping loves, which thus to thy owne fame Leanethee executor: since but thy owne No pen could doe'thee Instice, nor bayes crowne Thy vast desert, save that wee nothing can Depute to bee thy ashes Guardian: So Iewellers no art nor mettall trust, To forme the Diamond, but the Diamonds dust.

An Epitaph on Dr. Donne.

Cannot blame those men, that knew thee well, Yet dare not helpe the world to ring thy knell In tunefull Elegies. Ther's not language knowne Fit for thy mention, but was first thine owne. The Epitaphs thou writt'st, have so bereft Our pens of wit, ther's not one fancy left Enough to weepe thee, what hence forth wee fee Of art and nature, must result from thee. There may perchance some busy gathering friend Steale from thine owne works, and that varied lend (Which thou bestowd ft on others) to thy hear fe; And so thou shalt line still in thine owne verse. Hee that will venture further, may commit A pitied errour, hew bis Zeale, not wit. Fate bath done mank nd wrong; vertue may aime Reward of conscience, neuer can of fame, Since her great trumpet's broke, could only give Faith to the world, command it to believe. Hee then must write, that would define thy parts Heerelyes the best Dininity, all the Arts.

FINIS.